

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No.	:	10/709,078	Confirmation No. 3077
Applicant	:	Debra K. Stephens	
Filed	:	April 12, 2004	
TC/A.U.	:	2681	
Examiner	:	Sheila B. Smith	
Docket No.	:	U03-0193.77	
Customer No.	:	24,239	

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**OTHER COMMUNICATION REGARDING  
STATUS OF APPLICATION**

Sir or Madam:

Applicant received an office action on April 21, 2006 for the above captioned application. The office action was a final rejection of the claims pending. Applicant filed a reply after final on June 9, 2006 seeking an advisory action from the Examiner (Sheila B. Smith). Applicant's reply after final was submitted within 2 months of the mailing date of the final rejection office action.

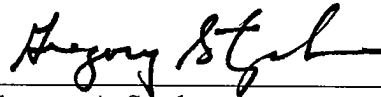
It is now August 21, 2006 and the Applicant has not heard from the Examiner or PTO in general regarding the reply after final. Applicant's attorney has repeatedly corresponded with the Examiner via telephone and e-mail to try to determine the status of the application considering the reply after final. The Examiner has stated that the reply after final was apparently mis-docketed and it has not come up for an action on her docket.

The applicant is running out of time to file a response to the final rejection office action and needs to receive feedback from the Examiner regarding the reply after final in order to make further decisions regarding the prosecution of this application.

Applicant therefore requests that the reply after final be addressed by the Examiner and that all future deadlines for responding to the final rejection office action of April 21, 2006 be reset accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Aug 21, 2006



Gregory A. Stephens

Reg. No. 41,329

Moore & Van Allen PLLC

PO Box 13760

Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Telephone: (919) 286-8000

Facsimile: (919) 286-8199